

LIBRARY



Borough of Berwick upon Tweed.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER
OF
HEALTH.

1939.

P. W. MACLAGAN, M.D. MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH



Borough of Berwick upon Tweed.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER
OF
HEALTH.

1939.

P. W. MACLAGAN, M.D. MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

*To the Mayor, Aldermen, and Councillors
of the Borough of Berwick-upon-Tweed.*

MR MAYOR, LADIES, AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit the Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1939.

The report has been somewhat curtailed in accordance with suggestions in the Ministry of Health Circular. The Vital Statistics based on the Registrar-General's figures were received on October 10th, 1940.

The birth-rate is slightly higher this year, being 14.38, compared with 13.85 for 1938, while the rate for England and Wales was 15.0. The death-rate from all causes is higher, being 12.76, compared with 9.67 for the previous year, which was exceptionally low, and a record for this Borough. The death-rate for England and Wales for 1939 was 12.1. No less than 65% of the total deaths were of persons over 65 years of age, and is the highest percentage yet recovered.

1939 saw the completion of the Sunnyside Housing Scheme and the re-housing of all families residing in houses which had been condemned in the previous year. It was the intention of the Council to erect 110 houses for the relief of overcrowding, but, before arrangements could be completed, the war broke out in September, and all such schemes had to be abandoned for the duration of the war.

Consequent on the outbreak of war, housing and other progressive action had to be modified, but a considerable amount of work on war emergency measures was required of the public health department, and particularly of the medical services.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies, and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

P. W. MACLAGAN, M.D.,
Medical Officer of Health.

Sections A. & F.—STATISTICS & GENERAL CONDITIONS

General Statistics.

Area—7,156 acres

Population—1931 census, 12,299. (1921 census, 12,985.)

R.G. est., mid-year 1939—12,100

No. of Inhabited Houses—3508.

Rateable Value—£69,430 (as at 31st March, 1939).

Sum rep. by 1d. rate—£277 Do.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Extracts from Vital Statistics.

BIRTHS.	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>	
Legitimate	90	75	165	
Illegitimate	4	5	9	
(Reg.-Gen.) Totals	94	80	174	Rate 14.38

DEATHS.		<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total</i>
(Registrar-General) ...	...	104	89	193
Deduct 14 deaths (see page 6)		95	84	179
Number of Women dying in consequence of Child-birth—Nil.				
Do.	from Sepsis	...	...	Nil.
Do.	from other causes...	...	...	Nil.
Deaths of Infants under 1 year—				

		Males	Females	Total	Rate per 1000
Legitimate	...	8	5	13	} 75
Illegitimate	...	—	—	—	

Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	—	—
Do. Whooping Cough	...	1	0.08
Do. Diphtheria	...	4	0.33
Do. Diarrhoea ...	...	—	—
Do. Scarlet Fever	...	—	—
Do. Tuberculosis (Pul.)	...	4	0.33
Do. do. (Non-Pul.)		5	0.41

Comparative Birth-rates, Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality Maternal Death-rates, and Case-rates certain Infectious Diseases.

				Rates per 1000 population.		
				No.	Berwick.	Eng. & Wales
Births—						
Live	...	...		174	14.38	15.0
Still	...	...		2	0.16	0.59
Deaths—				193	13.76	12.1
All causes	...	...		†179	12.76	
Typhoid & Para. fever				*1	0.08	0
Smallpox	...	...		0	0	0
Measles...	...	...		0	0	0.01
Scarlet Fever	...	...		0	0.08	0.01
Whooping Cough	...	...		1	0.08	0.03
Diphtheria	...	...		4	0.33	0.06
Influenza	...	...		2	0.16	0.21
Violence...	...	...		10	0.82	...

Notifications—						
Smallpox	...	...		0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	...	...		41	3.36	1.89
Diphtheria	...	...		61	5.00	1.14
Enteric Fever	...	...		0	0	0.04
Erysipelas	...	...		5	0.31	0.34
Pneumonia	...	...		2	0.16	1.02

Rates per 1,000 Live Births—

Deaths under 1 year	...		13	75	50
Deaths from diarrhoea and enteritis under 2 years	...		0	0	4.6

Maternal mortality rates (per 1000 live births)—

Puerperal Sepsis	...		0	0	0.77
Others	...		0	0	2.16
Total	...		0	0	2.93

Maternal Mortality rates (per 1000 totalbirths, i.e., live and still)—

Puerperal Sepsis	...		0	0	0.74
Others	.....		0	0	2.08
Total	...		0	0	2.82

Notifications—

Puerperal Fever	...		0	0	14.35
Puerperal Pyrexia	...		0	0	

*Registrar General's figures.

†Excludes 7 deaths of persons resident in Scotland & 7 others (p. 6)

*1 death assigned to Berwick due to wrong address of
residence to Registrar at Liverpool.

Population.

The population, estimated by the Registrar-General for the Borough to mid-year, 1939, is 12,100 for birth-rate and 12,200 for death-rate.

Births.

The births allocated to the Borough by the Registrar-General numbered 174, giving a birth-rate of 13.85. When compared with the equivalent figures for the previous year (167 births and a rate of 13.85) and with the birth-rate of 15.0 for England and Wales for 1939, this year's Borough birth rate may be considered low.

The birth rate is calculated on a population of 12,100.

There were 9 illegitimate births (4 males and 5 females) in the total of 174.

The distribution of the births was as follows :—

	<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>	<i>Total</i>
Berwick ...	52	40	92
Tweedmouth ...	23	26	49
Spittal ...	14	11	25
Inwards from England	5	3	8
	94	80	174

Compared with the previous year the township of Berwick shews 7 more births, Tweedmouth 5 more, and Spittal 2 less.

Deaths.

The number of deaths belonging to the Borough is 179, giving a death rate of 12.76, as compared with 134 deaths and a rate of 9.67 for the previous year.

The death-rate of 1939 is calculated on a population of 12,200 and is modified by a standardising factor of 0.87 to correct the death rate on account of the age and sex constitution of our population.

From the total deaths assigned to the Borough by the Registrar General, viz., 193, there falls to be deducted 7 deaths belonging to Scotland, and 7 others wrongly assigned to Berwick.

The distribution of the deaths was as follows :—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Berwick	42	50	92
Tweedmouth	23	25	48
Spittal	26	6	32
Inland Transfers	4	3	7
Total for Boro'	95	84	179
Scottish	4	3	7
Military	1	—	1
Others	4	2	6
Reg.-Gen. Fig.	104	89	193

Ages at Death.

The tables of ages at death is shewn with the percentage of total deaths at the various age periods, compared with the previous 4 years.

Ages.	No. of deaths.			Percentage of Total deaths				
	M	F	Tot.	1939	1938	1937	1936	1935
Un. 1	8	5	13	7.26	8.96	3.51	3.87	7.02
1-5	2	2	4	2.23	2.24	2.92	1.10	4.68
5-15	2	3	5	2.80	0.74	1.17	1.10	1.17
15-25	...	3	3	1.68	2.24	5.26	2.76	3.51
25-45	5	2	7	3.91	7.46	6.43	6.63	10.53
45-60	9	11	20	11.17	21.64	12.87	15.47	9.94
60-65	6	4	10	5.59	8.96	8.77	12.71	12.87
65-70	16	5	21	11.73	8.96	12.28	8.84	8.77
70-80	31	29	60	13.52	21.64	25.74	23.21	28.07
80-90	41	18	32	17.88	15.67	19.88	20.44	11.69
90 up.	2	2	4	2.23	1.49	1.17	3.87	1.75
	95	84	179	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

The following table, showing the percentage of total deaths at certain age periods for 1939 and compared with the average percentage for the 10 years 1928-1937 is interesting. It is desirable to have a low percentage in groups I, II, III, and IV, and a high percentage in group V.

Age period.	Av. % for 10 years 1928-37.	% for 1939.	Notes re percentage for 1939.
I. Babies under 1	6.56	7.26	Above normal.
II. Infants 1-5	2.85	2.23	Normal, good
III. School, 5-15	2.02	2.80	Above normal.
IV. Working, 15-65	36.16	22.35	Well below normal.
V. Retired, 65 up.	52.39	65.36	Well above normal.

The high percentage of deaths of persons above 65 years is a regular feature in Berwick, and this year is the highest on record, viz., 65%. The average percentage for the past 20 years is 48.

PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL DEATHS ABOVE 65 YEARS														
1926	'27	'28	'29	'30	'31	'32	'33	'34	'35	'26	'37	'38	'39	
45	47	53	42	49	54	57	53	48	50	56	59	48	65	

Causes of Death.

The following table shews the classification of deaths from all causes (Registrar-General's figures) :—

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Totals</i>
1 Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever	1	...	1
2 Measles ... ..	...	...	...
3 Scarlet Fever ... ..	...	...	...
4 Whooping Cough	1	...	1
5 Diphtheria ... ..	...	4	4
6 Influenza ... ..	...	2	2
7 Encephalitis Lethargica ... ..	...	...	...
8 Cerebro-spinal Fever ... ..	...	...	...
9 Tuberculosis of respiratory system	2	2	4
10 Other Tuberculous diseases	1	4	5
11 Syphilis ... ..	...	...	...
12 General paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis ... ..	...	...	...
13 Cancer, malignant disease	14	9	23
14 Diabetes	1	1	2
15 Cerebral hæmorrhage	3	8	11
16 Heart Disease	19	19	38
17 Aneurysm ... ..	...	3	3
18 Other circulatory diseases...	10	2	12
19 Bronchitis	5	1	6
20 Pneumonia, all forms	6	1	7
21 Other respiratory diseases	1	1	2
22 Peptic Ulcer	1	1	2
23 Diarrhœa, etc., under 2 years	...	...	...
24 Appendicitis ... ..	...	...	...
25 Cirrhosis of liver ... ..	...	...	...
26 Other diseases of liver, etc.	...	...	...
27 Other digestive diseases ... ..	...	...	...
28 Acute and chronic nephritis	2	3	5
29 Puerperal sepsis ... ..	...	...	...
30 Other puerperal causes ... ..	...	...	...
31 Congenital Debility, premature birth, malformation, etc.	5	4	9
32 Senility	12	19	31
33 Suicide	2	...	2
34 Other Violence	8	2	10
35 Other defined diseases	8	2	10
36 Causes ill-defined or unknown	1	...	1
37 Diarrhoea, <i>over</i> 2 years	1	1	2
Totals	105	89	193

Infantile Mortality.

13 deaths of infants under 1 year belonging to the Borough were recorded, giving a rate of 74 per 1000 live births, as compared with 12 deaths and a rate of 72 in the previous year. The corresponding rate for England and Wales for 1939 is 50.

CAUSES OF DEATH OF CHILDREN UNDER 1 YEAR

Reg. No.	Age	M	F	Cause
433	1 month	...	1	Asphyxia due to accident.
445	2 hours	1	...	Prematurity-malformation.
492	8 months	1	...	Confluent broncho pneumonia.
2	5 days	1	...	Premature birth.
26	2 days	...	1	Intra-cranial haemorrhage.
53	3 months	1	...	Broncho pneumonia.
66	5 months	1	...	Acute bronchitis.
97	1 month	...	1	Prematurity.
143	12 hours	1	...	Prematurity.
149	15 minutes.	...	1	Prematurity.
157	5 days	...	1	Prematurity.
Inwards	1 hour	1	...	Prematurity.
Inwards	2 months	1	...	Cardiac failure.

Infectious Diseases.

132 cases of infectious diseases were notified, as compared with 180 for the previous year.

7 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and 6 non-pulmonary were also notified.

An outbreak of diphtheria occurred, and was mainly confined to one of the elementary schools. "Carriers" were ultimately discovered amongst the pupils, and on these being isolated the outbreak rapidly declined.

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

(Other than Tuberculosis).

			Notified.	Rem. to Hosp.	Died
Scarlet Fever	...	...	41	39	—
Diphtheria	...	...	61	60	4
Erysipelas	...	...	5	3	...
Ophthalmia Neon.	...	...	1	1	...
Pneumonia	...	...	2	...	...
Measles ...	...	...	22	2	...
Totals ...	...	...	132	105	4

DEATHS FROM NON-NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, 1925-38.

	1926	'27	'28	'29	'30	'31	'32	'33	'34	'35	'36	'37	'38	'39
Influenza	2	4	2	5	1	2	...	2	1	2	2	5	...	2*
Whooping Cough	2	...	...	2	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
Measles	...	...	3	...	...	2	...	5	1	...	...	1	...	...

*Includes 1 person resident in Scotland.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1930-39.

	1930	'31	'32	'33	'34	'35	'36	'37	'38	'39
Scarlet Fever ...	5	11	27	53	41	20	45	5	156	41
Diphtheria ...	2	7	2	1	20	28	11	11	18	61
Enteric Fever...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Para. Typhoid	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ...	16	4	7	5	4	6	1	2	4	5
Pneumonia ...	4	6	7	5	5	1	1	7	2	2
Tuberculosis ...	35	26	21	15	19	23	23	10	16	13
Cer. Spin. Menin.	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Smallpox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enceph. Letharg.	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chickenpox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neon.	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	2	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Do. Fever	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Totals	64	58	66	80	89	79	81	36	196	145

TUBERCULOSIS.

	<i>New cases.</i>				<i>Total deaths.</i>			
	<i>Pulmon.</i>		<i>Non-pulmon.</i>		<i>Pulmon.</i>		<i>Non-pulmon.</i>	
	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>
Under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1-5 years	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
5-15	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	1
15-25	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1
25-35	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
35-45	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
45-55	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
55-65	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...
65 and upwards	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Totals	4	3	2	4	3	2	...	3

NOTIFICATION OF NEW CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS.

	<i>Pulmon.</i>			<i>Non-pulmon.</i>			<i>Ttls.</i>
	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Tot.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Tot.</i>	
On register, 1st Jan., 1939	44	43	87	30	31	61	148
Notified during yr. for first time	4	3	7	2	4	6	13
Removed from register during yr.	3	5	8	...	3	3	11
Cases remaining on register, 31st Dec., 1939	45	41	86	32	32	64	150

Section B.—General Provision of Health Services.

Ambulance Facilities.—As mentioned in previous reports, motor ambulance facilities are available for removal of infectious diseases to hospital, and of accident and surgical cases to infirmaries. The latter service—that of removal of cases to the local infirmary, and to the Edinburgh and Newcastle Infirmaries—is largely taken advantage of both by people resident in the Borough and the surrounding area.

During the year the Council's Ambulance Service answered 249 calls, travelling 4,165 miles. 117 cases of infectious diseases were removed to Berwick Infectious Diseases Hospital from the Borough. From Berwick and neighbouring districts 132 private patients were removed to Berwick Infirmary, to Berwick Institution, to Edinburgh Infirmary, to Glasgow Infirmary, to Newcastle Infirmary, and to North Shields Hospital.

Hospitals and Nursing.

HOSPITALS.—No change has taken place in the arrangements made for the treatment of tuberculosis.

The infectious diseases hospital at The Greens, Berwick, was, on the outbreak of the war, removed to Marshall Meadows House, about 3 miles from the centre of the town. This substantially stone-built mansion, with several large commodious rooms, is provided with 48 beds, and provides suitable and sufficient ward accommodation for the isolation and treatment of the various infectious diseases.

Maternity Nursing.—The three “Queens” nurses of the Berwick Ladies District Nursing Association continue to render valuable service to the community. The nurses attended at 157 births or 90% of the total births of the Borough. Besides the maternity work, the nurses also attended 278 Medical and surgical cases. The number of visits to patients (other than military) were 7,041, articles of clothing given to patients, 350, and the issues of nursing appliances was 63. The work of the “Queens Nurses”, which has been going on quietly and efficiently for many years, is a very valuable contribution to the health services to the Borough, and work which cannot be too highly praised.

	1933	'34	'35	'36	'37	'38	'32
Total births ...	185	192	171	177	183	167	174
No. of births attended	175	184	145	169	158	151	157
% attendances to births	94%	96%	85%	95%	86%	90%	90%

Section C.—SANITARY INSPECTION OF AREA

Water.—As mentioned in previous report a new borehole supply is in course of preparation at Murton, which it is expected will greatly augment the present supplies.

Sanitary accommodation.—28 privy closets were abolished during the year, chiefly as a result of slum clearance. 4 new water closets with drainage systems were installed in place of privy closets at properties where substantial reconstruction was obtained.

Tabular Statement of Visits, Inspections, etc., by Sanitary Inspector.

Visits and Inspections to

Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops	...	...	86
Stables and Piggeries	...	...	14
Slaughter Houses	...	...	1476
Bakehouses	...	...	20
Workshops and Factories	...	...	42
Offensive Trades	...	...	22
Common Lodging Houses	...	...	...
Ships	...	...	...
Infectious Disease	...	...	760
House-to-house	...	...	420
Yards, Courts, etc.	...	...	224
Shop and Business Premises	...	...	180
Smoke Nuisance	...	...	4
Notices issued—Informal	...	...	98
Do. —Statutory	...	...	...
Notices complied with—Informal	...	...	82
Do. —Statutory	...	...	...

Statement of Nuisances, Defects, and Contraventions discovered and dealt with by Sanitary Inspector.

Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops.

Byres cleansed or limewashed	...	...	6
Cows hindquarters and udders found dirty (Herds)...	...	...	2
Manure in proximity to byre or milkshop	...	...	...
Manure pits emptied	...	...	3
Other Contraventions of Regulations	...	...	4

Stables and Piggeries.

Piggeries too near dwellings	...	...	1
Manure heaps removed	...	...	1
Stables limewashed	...	...	2
Stables drained	...	...	...

Slaughter Houses.

Gullies choked, cleared	...	...	8
Offal Carts defective	...	...	1
Limewashing required	...	...	11
Contravention of Regulations	...	...	4

Workshops and Factories.

Want of cleanliness	...	...	4
Want of ventilation	...	...	...
Sanitary accommodation insufficient, unsuitable, or defective	...	...	2
Other nuisances or offences	...	...	3

Offensive Trades.

Delay in removing offal	...	...	...
Other nuisances	...	...	2

Common Lodging Houses.

Limewashing required.	...	...	...
Bedding and bed clothes cleaned or renewed	...	...	...

Ships.

Dirty bedding of sailors	...	...	...
Dirty forecastles (painting and cleansing)	...	...	1
Dirty Lockers	...	...	2
Dirty Water-closets	...	...	3
Lack of proper ventilation	...	...	...

Infectious Disease.

Houses disinfected	...	...	114
Schools and Public Halls disinfected	...	...	18

House to House—Nuisances discovered.

Ashes and refuse accumulation	...	...	22
Dirty Water Closets	...	...	14
Choked gullies, drains, and water closets	...	...	26
Dirty houses	...	...	3
Dirty yards swept	...	...	14

Shops and Provision Stores.

Food stores limewashed	...	...	8
Food improperly exposed to dust, etc.	...	...	1
Rubbish accumulations removed	..	...	7
Premises protected against rats	...	...	8

Fish Friers Premises.

Fat vessels covered from dust	...	...	1
Dirty Floors	...	...	1

Drainage, etc.

Drains relaid	...	...	6
New drainage system provided	...	...	12
Gully traps obsolete, replaced	...	...	2
Drainage system trapped	...	...	...
Water closets, additional, provided	...	...	14
Water closets erected in lieu of privies...	...	...	4
Privy pails and middens removed	...	...	28
Privy pails renewed	...	...	...
Wash houses provided	...	...	6
Do. repaired	...	...	4
Water supply introduced into yards	...	...	...
Do. do. houses	...	...	12
Repairs to w.c. apartments and fittings...	...	...	16
Privy pans and middens (properties) at end of 1938	...	...	16

**Sanitary Improvements effected under supervision
of Sanitary Inspector.**

Houses.

Dampness in Walls	...	...	8
Defective roofs repaired	...	...	7
Wood floors repaired	...	...	6
Plaster work of walls repaired	...	...	9
Windows hung on cords	...	...	8
Window cords renewed	...	...	26
Provided with pantries	...	...	4
Spouting renewed or repaired	...	...	32
Other housing defects remedied	...	...	41
Miscellaneous nuisances removed	...	...	68

***Shops and Offices.*—The following improvements were effected :—**

1 Additional w.c. accommodation	...	2
2 Separate w.c. accommodation for sexes	...	2
3 Heating apparatus provided	...	1
4 Improved ventilation	...	...
5 Washing facilities	...	2
6 Facilities for taking meals	...	...

Section D.—HOUSING.

The number of occupied houses in the Borough at the end of 1939 was 3508.

ERECTION OF NEW DWELLINGS.

By private enterprise :—25 houses were built during the year by various firms, and were mostly owner occupied. 15 of these were erected at the Meadows Estate and North Road, Berwick, and 10 at Etal Road, Northumberland Road, and Mansefield Road, Tweedmouth.

By Local Authority :—30 houses at the Billendean Estate, Spittal.

Since 1921, 816 houses have been built by the Council, and 323 houses erected by private enterprise, making a total of 1,139 new houses, or almost one-third of the occupied houses in the Borough.

(a) Houses erected 1921-39.

		<i>By private enterprise</i>	<i>By Local Authority</i>	<i>Total</i>
1921	...	1	22	23
22	...	...	...	...
23	...	...	24	24
24	...	4	32	36
25	...	20	72	92
26	...	12	26	38
27	...	1	97	98
28	...	25	51	76
29	...	4	...	4
30	...	7	16	23
31	...	2	...	2
32	...	...	60	60
33	...	20	8	28
34	...	32	...	32
35	...	42	24	66
36	...	58	76	134
37	...	33	100	133
38	...	37	178	215
39	...	25	30	55
Totals	...	323	816	1139

(b) *Type of New Houses erected 1921-38 by Local Authority.*

	<i>Living Room</i>	<i>Parlour</i>	<i>Bedrooms</i>				<i>Totals</i>
			<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	
1921	22	8	...	...	22	...	22
22	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
23	24	...	...	12	12	...	24
24	32	...	...	16	16	...	32
25	72	...	40	32	...	...	72
26	26	...	12	7	7	...	26
27	97	...	45	36	16	...	97
28	51	...	19	32	...	...	51
29	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
30	16	...	...	16	...	...	16
31	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
32	60	...	...	40	20	...	60
33	8	...	...	8	...	...	8
34	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
35	24	...	...	12	8	4	24
36	76	...	...	48	22	6	76
37	100	...	...	60	30	10	100
38	178	...	2	92	64	20	178
39	30	...	...	24	6	...	30
Totals	816	8	118	435	223	40	816

DEMOLITION AND CLOSING ORDERS.

During 1939, a total of 115 houses were closed, and the 458 occupants re-housed. No representations were made in 1939 for the closing of houses.

STATISTICS.

Number of new houses erected during the year—

(i) By the Local Authority	...	...	30
(ii) By other Local Authorities	...	...	—
(iii) By other bodies and persons	...	...	25
Total	—	—	55

Housing Act, 1936 (Part IV).—Overcrowding.

(For particulars see statement on “Overcrowding” below.

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of year	304
(ii) „ families dwelling therein	304
(iii) „ persons	1235

(b)	„	new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	...	—
(c) (i)	„	cases of overcrowding relieved during the year.	...	...	77
(ii)	„	persons concerned in such cases.	...	...	431
(d)		Particulars of any cases in which dwellings have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding.	...	...	—
(e)		Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report.			
		No. of overcrowding cases relieved by slum clearance (included in 4 (c) (i) above	...	...	64

OVERCROWDING

Since the original survey in March, 1936, annual surveys were made in June of 1937 and 1938. The Council decided not to sanction any expenditure for a similar survey in 1939. The present position can not, therefore, be stated so accurately as in previous reports, but the undernoted figures are as near as can be stated without a survey.

Houses found overcrowded—1936 Survey	630			
Decrease to 31st December, 1939	326			
	<hr/>			
Houses overcrowded at 31st Dec., 1959	304			
	Remedied.	New Cases.	Net dec.	Remaining
Result of re-survey, 1936-7	204	48	156	474
„ 1937-8	130	58	22	402
Position as at 31-12-1938	45	24	21	381
„ 31-12-1936	77	...	77	304
	<hr/>			
	456	130	326	304

72% of the houses found overcrowded in the original survey of 1936 have been remedied. This means that the most serious cases of overcrowding have been dealt with. There still remain a few cases which call for relief, but owing to the shortage of houses may not be remedied for some time yet.

Owing to the outbreak of war in September, 1939, the number of persons joining the Services would considerably reduce the number of families where overcrowding existed. On the other hand, a number of soldiers' wives and children evacuated from Portsmouth and other military stations came to reside in the Borough to be near their husbands or relations.

Section E.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD. Milk Supply.

The number of cows in the dairy herds towards the end of last year was 154, compared with 156 the previous year.

The cowkeepers continue to pay attention to the general cleanliness of the byres and milk utensils. 52 visits were made to the cowsheds, and the usual minor contraventions found (see p. 11) were promptly attended to. 34 visits were paid to milkshops and other dairy premises.

Meat and other Foods.

Cause			Wholly or partly condemned	
2 cows and organs—generalised tuberculosis	...	...	...	Wholly
1 bullock and organs	do.	...	...	do.
1 do. do. —miliary tuberculosis	...	...	...	do.
1 do. do. —inflammation of lungs, dropsy, etc.	...	...	...	do.
2 stirks—emaciation, etc.	...	...	...	do.
1 bullock—bruised (260 lbs.)	...	...	...	partly
22 sheep—emaciation	...	...	...	Wholly
17 sheep—fevered and lambing...	...	...	...	do.
3 sheep—bruising	...	...	...	do.
Heads, tongue, lungs, livers, and other organs of bullocks slaughtered were condemned.				
32 plucks (sheep) were also condemned.				
In addition, 2x7lb. boxes of haddock filets, and 54x13lb } boxes of Fyndon haddocks, and 6½lbs. of boneless } ham were found unfit for food.				712 lbs

CARCASES INSPECTED & CONDEMNED.

	Cattle, ex- cluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	1514	6	...	48,410	1763
Number inspected ...	1276	6	...	12,620	1534

All diseases except tuberculosis—

Whole carcases condemned	3	...	...	42	...
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	4	...	...	32	...
Percentage of the number in spected affected with dis- ease other than tuberculosis	0.55%	...	...	0.06%	...

Tuberculosis only—

Whole carcases condemned	2	2	...	...	...
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	...	...	...	...	...
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with tub.	0.27%	33%	...	...	...

The butchers' shops, fish shops, fruiterers, and grocers were also visited, and the instructions of the Inspector as to the care of foodstuffs and prevention of contamination promptly attended to.

Special visits were paid during the summer to provision shops where bacon is sold, to ascertain the condition of the bacon. While some loss was occasioned during warm weather, on the whole, the bacon kept well.

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

18 samples of various foods and drugs were taken during the year and examined by the public analyst as under :—

	No. taken.	Found genuine.	Not genuine
Milk ...	12	11	1
Sugar ...	1	1	...
Tea ...	1	1	...
Cocoa ...	1	1	...
Ground rice ...	1	1	...
Custard powder ...	1	1	...
Self-raising flour ...	1	1	...
Totals	18	17	1

The sample of milk reported "not genuine" was deficient in non-fatty solids, shewing the presence of extraneous water to the extent of 6.4% It appeared that water had not been added, and the result may have been due to a natural deficiency in non-fatty solids in a cow.

Under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, which came into force on 1st October, 1939, the Borough ceased as the authority for administering this part of the Act, the duty devolving upon the County Council.

Factories and Workshops.

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Written Notices</i>	<i>Prosecutions</i>
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	16	4	...
Workshops (do. Workshop do.)	22	6	.
Workplaces	4	1	..
	42	10	...

Defects found in Factories, Workshops, and other places

Nuisances under the Public Health Acts—

		<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied</i>
Want of Cleanliness	... ..	4	4
Want of Ventilation	... ..	...	...
Other Nuisances	... ..	...	...
Sanitary Accommodation	{ insufficient ...	...	...
	{ unsuitable or defective	2	2
	{ not separate for sexes	...	...
Other Offences	... ..	3	3
		10	10

